counts on the pretext of low quality; and

(c) whether the Apparel Export Promotion Council has taken up the matter and how many such complaints have been received?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) to (c) Disputes relating to quality as well as non-payment of dues are raised from time to time by garment exporters as well as importers. While these are normally sorted out between the exporters and importers, in some cases complaints are filed by the exporters or importers with the Apparel Export Promotion Council. Three such complaints have been filed by the garment exporters in India during the current year against importers of U.S.A. considering the large number of shipments that go from the country, these are negligible. Such cases are investigated by the Council and comments or explanation of the importers are obtained from time to time so as to sort out the disputes.

Production/Consumption and Import/ Export of Cotton and Silk

146. SHRI MOHINDAR SINGH KALYAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the production and consumption of cotton and silk in the country during the period from 1994-95 and 1995-96;

(b) the target fixed for the same during this period;

(c) the details of cotton and silk imported and exported during this period; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government to increase the production of cotton in the country?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R. L. JALAPPA): (a) *Cotton*

	1994-95	1995-96 (in lakh bales of 170 kg. each)
Production	130.50	160.00
Consumption	135.04	151.00 (Source: Cotton Advisory Board)

Raw Silk (in Metric Tons)

Production	14,579	13,909
Consumption	19,982*	18,058* (*represents domestic consumption and export)

(b) No targets are fixed for the production and consumption of cotton and consumption of silk by the Ministry of Textiles. The figures for the targets of production of silk are given below.

Raw Silk (in Metric Tons)

	1994-95	1995-96
Production	17,700	16,790

(c) *Cotton* *Silk*

(in lakh bales of 170 kgs each)				
	1994-95	1995-96	1994-95	1995-96
Import	5.89	0.50	*5403 (in Metric Tons)	*4149
Export	1.08	12.59	937.54 (in Rs. Crores)	846.08

* Import of raw silk is allowed only for export production.

(d) An intensive Cotton Development Programme (ICDP) is being implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture in Cotton Growing States. The Cotton Corporation of India Ltd. (CCI) also supplements the efforts of the Ministry of Agriculture in undertaking extension and developmental activities.

Prevention of Sea Erosion

147. SHRI RAJ NATH SINGH:
SHRIMATI MALTI SHARMA:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken

any decision to prevent sea erosion in the country which is causing severe damages in the sea coast; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) and (b) investigation, design, construction and maintenance of anti sea erosion works is primarily the responsibility of concerned State Government and therefore anti sea erosion works in the country are being carried out by the respective State Governments with their own financial resources. The coastal Protection and Development Advisory Committee under the Chairmanship of Member (RM) Central Water Commission and comprising members representing all coastal states advises the State Governments on the most effective and economic solution to coastal erosion problems. Central Loan Assistance to states for taking up anti sea erosion works was discontinued from March, 1992 as decided by the National Development Council. State Governments have been approaching Government of India for financial assistance. Accordingly, Coastal Protection & Development Advisory Committee recommended preparation of National Coastal Protection Project and pose for external assistance. Coastal States have been requested for furnishing proposals regarding construction of anti sea erosion works at vulnerable points along the coastline of the State for inclusion in the National Coastal Protection Project under preparation at the Centre. Proposals from some states are still awaited.

Condition of Ground Water Reserves

148. SHRI NARENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the condition of ground water reserves in India;

(b) whether this ground water is being consumed with any specific long-term plan or there is no planning; and

(c) how Government intend to maintain the present ground water reserves and which States are co-operating in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) Total annual replenishable ground water resources of India are estimated at 43.18 million hectare metres. Keeping in view an annual provision of 7.09 million hectare metres for domestic, industrial and other uses, available ground water resources for irrigation is 36.08 million hectare metres. Utilisable irrigation potential for development is tentatively estimated at 64.05 million hectare metres.

(b) and (c) There are reports of over exploitation of ground water in certain pockets of some States resulting in depletion of ground water level. Water being the State subject, its regulation and development is the responsibility of the State Governments. However, the Central Government have taken the following steps in this direction:

(i) Circulation of Model Bill to all the States/Union Territories to enable them to enact suitable legislation for regulation and control of ground water development.

(ii) Circulation of a Manual on artificial recharge of ground water to the States/Union Territories to enable them to formulate area specific artificial recharge schemes to check the declining trend in ground water levels.

(iii) Constitution of the Central Ground Water Board as an Authority under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for regulation and control of ground water management and development.